

pf4



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/672,181	09/28/2000	Lorin Evan Ullmann	AUS9-2000-0441-US1	9180

7590 09/09/2003

Robert H Frantz
P O Box 23324
Oklahoma City, OK 73123-2334

EXAMINER

DUONG, OANH L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2155

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/672,181

Applicant(s)

ULLMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Oanh L. Duong

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2155

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

1. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Birrell et al (Birrell)

Regarding claims 1, 13 and 25, Birrell teaches method for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic system (e.g., see abstract), said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses (e.g., see col. 10 lines 45-48 and col. 12 lines 16-18), said electronic mail message having a header and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most

Art Unit: 2155

recent sender of an electronic mail message (e.g., see col. 9 lines 10-14), said body section containing a forwarded message and field indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message (e.g., see col. 12 lines 16-21), said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user (e.g., see fig. 1 col. 3 lines 9-23), said method comprising steps of searching the body section of electronic mail message for the chain sender addresses of senders prior to the most recent sender (e.g., see col. 6 lines 52-54, col. 10 lines 45-48 and col. 14 lines 22-38); providing a first user control on said electronic messaging system user interface for displaying one or more of the chain sender addresses (e.g., see col. 10 lines 45-48 and col. 12 lines 16-21); and displaying one or more chain sender addresses on said user display responsive to operation of said first user control by a user such that user may view one or more chain sender addresses (e.g., see col. 12 lines 12-21).

Regarding claims 2 and 14, Birrell teaches searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message (e.g., see col. 1 lines 38-41 and col. 11 lines 26-32).

Regarding claims 3 and 15, Birrell teaches searching inline quoted within the body section (e.g., see col. 14 lines 57-58).

Regarding claims 4 and 16, Birrell teaches searching an attached mail message (e.g., see col. 12 lines 59-67).

Regarding claims 5 and 17, Birrell teaches searching header section of electronic mail message (e.g., see col. 9 lines 56-60).

Art Unit: 2155

Regarding claims 6, 18 and 26, Birrell teaches selecting one or more displayed chain sender addresses (e.g., see col. 12 lines 16-21).

Regarding claims 7, 19 and 27, Birrell teaches adding addresses to an electronic mail address book (e.g., see col. 10 lines 10 lines 39-61); and automatically adding selected addresses to an address book (e.g., see col. 10 lines 35-48).

Regarding claims 8, 20 and 28, Birrell teaches adding selected addresses to address book as a new group of entries (e.g., see col. 16 lines 14-17).

Regarding claims 9, 21 and 29, Birrell teaches automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to the selected sender addresses (e.g., see col. 10 line 62-col. 11 line 6).

Regarding claims 10 and 22, Birrell teaches method for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic system (e.g., see abstract), said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses (e.g., see col. 10 lines 45-48 and col. 12 lines 16-18), said electronic mail message having a header and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message (e.g., see col. 9 lines 10-14), said body section containing a forwarded message and field indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message (e.g., see col. 12 lines 16-21), said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user (e.g., see fig. 1 col. 3 lines 9-23), said method comprising steps of searching the

Art Unit: 2155

body section of electronic mail message for the chain sender addresses of senders prior to the most recent sender (e.g., see col. 6 lines 52-54, col. 10 lines 45-48 and col. 14 lines 22-38); adding a chain sender field to an electronic mail message header section when forwarding the chain forwarded electronic mail message to another recipient (e.g., see col. 12 lines 16-21); and chain sender field containing any chain sender addresses found during the step of searching body section of the addresses of the most recent sender (e.g., see col. 12 lines 12-21).

Regarding claims 11, 23 and 30, Birrell teaches searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message (e.g., see col. 1 lines 38-41 and col. 11 lines 26-32).

Regarding claims 12 and 24, Birrell teaches adding a Sender-chain field to a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message (e.g., see col. 14 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 31, Birrell teaches creates a Chain-Sender field in a header section of a new message upon forwarding of a chain forwarded message to another recipient (e.g., see col. 14 lines 31-40).

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Oanh L. Duong whose telephone number is (703) 305-0295. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 8:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on (703) 308-6662. The

Art Unit: 2155

fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Cal

O.D

September 4, 2003

Hosain Alam
HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER